



Kiwanis Club of the

Foothills

Club Website: www.foothillskiwanis.org

Meetings: 2nd & 3rd Mondays at 7:00 am at The
Brewing Market, 2770 Dagny Way, Lafayette, CO

Sept 7, 2026

Coming up . . .

9/7/26 – Happy Labor Day! (No Meeting)
9/14/26 - Board Meeting at the Brewing
Market
9/21/26 – Rudy Dichtl, Shroud of Turin
9/28/26 – Officer/Director Installation
Ceremony; no club social
10/5/26 – Board Meeting at the Brewing
Market
10/12/26 – Higgins & Schmidt, Foundation
Investments Update
10/19/26 – President's Plans & Goals for
2026-27 Administrative Year
10/26/26 - Club Social, 5-7 pm, Bambei
Brewing, 100 Superior Plaza Way, Superior
11/3/26 – Board Meeting at the Brewing
Market

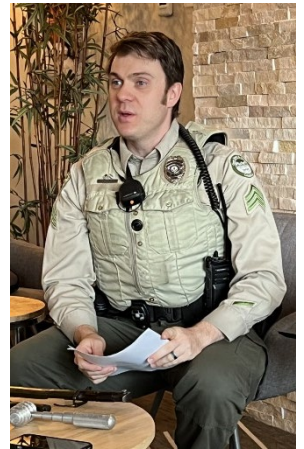
Program Chairpersons:

Sept – Bob
Oct – Bill A

Snippets from Recent Club Programs

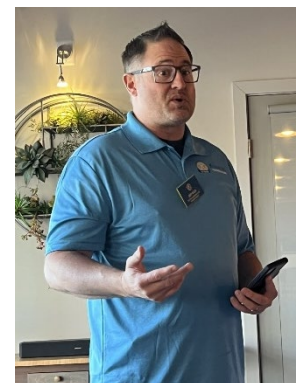
8/10/26 – Benjamin White-Patarino, Colorado Tungsten & Coal and its role in WWI

Norm's grandson, Benjamin, gave a presentation on how local resources and military volunteers helped the WWI effort. He is a Ranger Sargeant and has worked for 6 years in partnership with the Louisville Museum. He provides walking tours at Courtesy & South Boulder Road; the next tour is scheduled for November 8. Benjamin explained that President Woodrow Wilson recommended isolation from the conflict, but the US entered the war in 1917. No German speaking was allowed at the time in Lafayette, and many local German families were under suspicion. Wheat and beef were sent to the front, and many victory gardens were planted by local citizens. Peach pits were used for gas mask filters. Our low-quality coal was used only locally for cooking and heating. Tungsten from the Netherland area was used for cutting tools and improving durability of many weapons. 60% of the world's tungsten was produced at Sherwood Gulch – a town of 20,000 people at the time. He noted that six area people died in combat and 24 from Spanish flu. Thanks, Benjamin, for an interesting and educational program!



8/17/26 – Jeff Rose, Our Kiwanis Utube -Updates, Plans, Next Steps

Our club member, Jeff, just returned from his church-supported, short-term mission trip to Tajuana, Mexico. He described the ministry and showed videos of the volunteers who provided medical and spiritual support that impacted on the lives of 650 residents. Jeff then demonstrated to us how easily U-tube videos can capture the volunteer activity associated with our club's service projects. The videos can be placed on social media to inform the public of our programs and to help recruit members to our club. *Editorial note:* Jeff is encouraged to meet with other tech savvy club members and recommend a path forward to advertise our club's activities. Currently, we use a bimonthly newsletter to communicate with our members. In addition, Joe maintains websites for our club and the Alert Service Dog for Kids project to advertise our activities and to retain our club's history. Thanks, Jeff, for all you do to help bring us into the 21st century of media technology!



Club Officers		
	President	
	Chris Austin	
	Past President	
	Bill Lester	
	President-Elect	
	Jim Behler	
	Secretary	
	Bob Mohling	
	Matt Fredrick	
	Treasurer	
	Joe Girard	
	Board of Directors	
	Bill Anderson	
	Alan Boeve	
	Norm Cizek	
	Felipe Conreras	
	Lori McLean	
	Lt. Tania Morales	
	Dave Rogers	
	Jeff Rose	

KIWANIS: Serving the Children of the World!

8/1/26 – Broomfield’s National Night Out

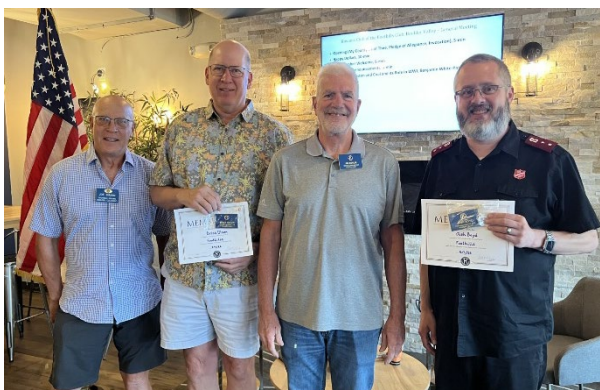
Members of Foothills and The Salvation Army hosted a both and canteen vehicle at the Broomfield National Night Out along with other police, fire, and other first responder groups for the community. 19 pink backpacks, popartars, and water bottles were distributed during the event.



Bill, Dave, Ryan, and Josh at work

8/10/26 - Newest Members Inducted into our Club

--Bob



Joe and Jim welcome new members Brian and Josh

Our members welcomed Brian and Capt. Josh to our club on 8/10/26. Joe and Bob introduced our newest members. The sponsors for Brian and Josh are Joe and Bill D, respectively. President Elect Jim provided them with certificates, pins, and nametags. We welcome them to the 600,000 K-family membership. The new inductee challenge is: bring a new member to our club this year!

8/14-16/26 – Interclub at District Convention (DCON)

--Bill D, Jim, Jeff, & Bob

We had an interclub to DCON in Pueblo – Bill D, Jim, Jeff, and Bob represented our club. Pueblo was a good host city. About 200 club members from the Rocky Mountain District attended. The next DCON will be held August 6-8, 2027 in Grand Junction. Each attendee submitted convention and forum highlights that follow.



Jim, Jeff, Bob, & Bill D pose next to Kiwanis Objects banner

Bill D's comments: I had the pleasure of attending four breakout sessions and two of them stood out as possible future activities for our Club.

I attended the “Building More Than Lego’s” session presented by Josephine Young from the Wheatland, WY Kiwanis Club. This is an annual fundraiser every March where they have kids in friendly competition in building their own Lego creation. They raise money by having the public vote (\$1/vote, sound familiar) for their favorite Lego creation. It’s a fun way to get kids involved and also some good PR for Kiwanis.

The other session was “Come and See What BUGs You”, presented by Gordon Hamilton from the Kiwanis Club of Colorado Springs. BUG stands for “Building up Grades” and is a formal Kiwanis program. This program recognizes primary/elementary school age students who raise their grades or maintain good grades from one grading period to the next. You work with the school and teachers and the teachers recommend the students. Kiwanis has a starter kit so this is a fairly easy program to get implemented.

I will present more on these programs in our next Board Meeting.

One group event was a visit to the new Pueblo DaVinci highly recommend it!

Jim's comments: My first Kiwanis Rocky Mountain District Convention was awesome! The biggest takeaway was seeing the true heart of Kiwanians. Everyone genuinely wants to "walk the walk" and make life better for kids everywhere.

I also got a ton out of the breakout sessions:

- **Kiwanis 101:** Gave a great breakdown of the global hierarchy, club history, and youth programs like Key Club and K-Kids.
- **Marketing & Community Outreach:** Packed with ideas to grow our club using Facebook, Google, and Instagram. The session leader actually loved our YouTube video about the Service Dog program! Her main advice for community awareness? "Be impossible to ignore!"
- **BUG (Bring Up Grades):** This one made the biggest impact. It’s a simple, teacher-led program that rewards K-5 students for improving their grades. The club just provides the materials and awards. It requires minimal effort but goes a long way in recognizing a child's progress.

It was an inspiring weekend with lots of great tools to bring back to our club!

Jeff's comments: How AI Can Support Your Kiwanis Work and Daily Life

AI can sharpen your leadership by handling the load that eats into strategic thinking. Delegate first drafts—emails, reports, meeting summaries—so your time goes to decisions, not typing. Use it to pressure-test ideas: ask for counter arguments before you present to your team. Let it synthesize data or long documents into quick briefs, so you walk into meetings already informed. It can also help you communicate more clearly, tightening messages before they go out, or role-play difficult conversations so you're

prepared. The real efficiency gain isn't speed alone—it's freeing your attention for judgment calls, people, and priorities only you can handle.

Artificial intelligence tools each have different strengths, and knowing which to use can save time both in Kiwanis service work and everyday tasks for example.

****ChatGPT**** excels at brainstorming, drafting newsletters, meeting agendas, and grant proposals. It's strong for creative writing and generating ideas quickly, like fundraiser themes or event names.

****Claude**** is well-suited for longer, detailed documents — think club bylaws review, lengthy reports, or summarizing meeting minutes. It's known for careful, nuanced writing and handling sensitive club communications thoughtfully.

****Gemini**** integrates tightly with Google Workspace, making it handy if your club uses Google Docs, Sheets, or Gmail. It's useful for pulling information from your existing files and drafting content directly inside those tools.

****Copilot**** shines inside Microsoft products — Word, Excel, Outlook. If your club tracks budgets in Excel or drafts letters in Word, Copilot can help build formulas, format documents, and draft emails right where you're already working.

****Meta AI**** is built into Facebook and Instagram, making it convenient for creating social media posts, event graphics, and captions to promote Kiwanis fundraisers and service projects directly where your community sees them.

In daily life, these same tools help with meal planning, travel itineraries, budgeting, and simplifying complex topics — from tax questions to home repairs.

The key is matching the tool to the task: writing and reasoning (ChatGPT, Claude), Google-based work (Gemini), Microsoft-based work (Copilot), and social media (Meta AI).

Special thanks to Holli Arnett for her excellent one-hour course on this topic at the Kiwanis Rocky Mountain District Convention.

Bob's comments: I attended the following forums:

- **Key Club** – there are 83 high school clubs (approaching 3,000 members) in the Rocky Mountain District. Kiwanians need to attend meetings, recognize the club's accomplishments, and followup after meetings. Mentorship is needed for career advice, leadership skills, and planning projects and events.
- **Key Leader** – there are two opportunities for high school students to participate in Key Leader – YMCA at Estes Park October 16-18, 2026 and Casper in June 2027. Kiwanis International provides the facilitators. The students learn about leadership and service. The organization needs help from Kiwanians to market the course and funding support. It costs \$550/student; students pay only \$50 for the weekend course.

- **AI for Kiwanis Clubs** – Scott Ross (Monument Hill) provided an excellent



Jeff, Scott, and Bob

presentation and demonstration of poster and ad generation. AI is good at drafting, summarizing, brainstorming, organizing, research assisting, and rewriting. Best practice means we verify facts, protect privacy, and be transparent.

We should learn to use KIRA at the KI website. KIRA, your Kiwanis AI chatbot At Kiwanis International, is a members' and communities' tool to help us navigate and find info at the website.

8/22/26 – Clay Shoot for MyChoice Resource Center

--Pam & Bob

Five members of our club participated in the 4th Annual Clay Shoot at Colorado Clays in Brighton. Bob and Bill D were joined by Bill's son-in-law, Mike, and MyChoice director, Diane Chapman; Brian was placed on a team of elite high-scoring shooters! There were 17 teams and 35 volunteers. Over \$25k was raised for MyChoice. Fun was had by all involved!



Bob, Mike, Bill D, and Diane

8/22/26 - Broomfield Veteran's Museum

--Dave & Joe

President Chris with members Dave and Joe attended the Saturday morning presentation at the veteran's museum. We were first on the



Joe, Chris, and Dave present check to John

agenda! Dave gave a nice talk about our club and pitched the coolest dog contest along with our Alert Dog program. Then Chris presented our \$1,000 donation to the museum, to be used for promoting kids' knowledge of and appreciation of history. It will be used to procure equipment for stocking a "foot locker" to take to youth education meetings. A very interesting presentation on Revolutionary War tactics and strategies followed.

8/24/26 - Club Social Meeting

- Bob

Eleven members attended the club social at Bambei Brewing. There was good fellowship, drinks, and meals at Bambei. Again, many tall stories were overheard in the conversations. Join us at the next club social at Bambei!



8/25/26 – Peak to Peak Key Club Officer's Meeting

-- Bob

The officers have had several meetings to plan for their P2P Club Fair on 9/1/26 and Broomfield Days Zero Waste on 9/19/26. In addition, plans were made for the first club meeting that will include fees announcement, defining Key Club and Kiwanis, membership requirements, and preparation for service projects.



Upcoming Community Service/Kiwanis Events

- **September 19, 2026** – Broomfield Days Booth
- **September 26, 2026** – Sweet Dream in a Bag Packing Event, The Salvation Army Gym, 10 am-12 pm
- **September 28, 2026** – YL Golf Tournament at Todd Creek Golf Club
- **October 11, 2026** – Coolest Dog End-of-Contest Celebration at 1 pm, Bambei Brewing
- **October 16-18, 2026** - Key Leader at YMCA/Estes Park
- **November 8, 2026** – City of Louisville Walking Tour, Benjamin White-Patarino at Courtesy & South Boulder Road
- **June 16-19, 2027** – Kiwanis International Convention, Dallas, Texas
- **August 6-8, 2027** – Kiwanis District Convention in Grand Junction, CO
- **August 21, 2027** - MyChoice Clay Shoot at Colorado Clays, Brighton, CO